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Title : Need to take steps for the release of Indians held in Muscat, Oman due to lack of necessary documents.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government on some serious issues. A large number of citizens of India from various States go abroad for seeking employment. The reports that we get from different countries are that these citizens are facing a lot of difficulties and atrocities. In the recent times, thousands of Indian citizens -- most of them are belonging to Kerala and they are all Malayalees -- are held in Muscat and Oman. They were brought there by the sponsors, who had taken a huge amount from

* Not Recorded.

them. But it is understood that due to lack of documents many of these persons were held in jails. Most of them are in the labour camps.

The Embassy of our nation has to contact the Embassy of Oman with immediate effect and the relief measures have to be taken. It is because they are not allowed to return or work there. Either they have to go to the jails or they have to go to the labour camps.

Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to take immediate steps in this regard.